

the unselfish work that each nurse performs each day to maintain the health of thousands. Today I honor these nephrology nurses from Bensalem and congratulate them for their dedicated service to the community.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 481–489.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on No. 481, “yes” on No. 482, “yes” on No. 483, “no” on No. 484, “no” on No. 485, “yes” on No. 486, “yes” on No. 487, “yes” on No. 488, and “no” on No. 489.

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HONORING EAGLES LANDING  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Eagles Landing Middle School, which has been named a National PTA School of Excellence for its achievement in building effective family-school partnerships. As a parent and a congressman, I understand the need for a strong family commitment to ensure the educational success of our children and am so

proud of Eagles Landing for receiving this prestigious award.

The National PTA School of Excellence program recognizes schools whose families feel welcomed and empowered to support student success. Eagles Landing Middle School is a community-based school that engages families through programming that brings them together for a common purpose. Through constant communication between parents and teachers, structured family nights like STEM Night and Literacy Night, and a centrally-located community garden that is incorporated into the curriculum as an outdoor learning center, families are encouraged to work and have fun together with other members of their school and community. Eagles Landing is the only middle school in the state of Florida and only one of ten schools in the state to receive this designation.

I would like to recognize Eagles Landing Principal Cindy Chiapetta and PTSA President Kendra Palumbo for their hard work in putting in place strong practices that involve families in the education of their children. The partnership between Eagles Landing School and Eagles Landing Middle School PTSA is an inspiring example of what can be accomplished when schools and families work together.

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TRIBUTE TO THE TRIPLE NICKELS

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 11, 2014*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, there are those who offer their vocations to their com-

munity, their family, and their country. Then there are those who blaze such a trail of dedication and service that all who follow behind cannot help but to offer gratitude and great thanks. I rise today to celebrate and honor the men of the 555th Parachute Infantry Company as they are remembered in a ceremony fitting their legacy.

The men who comprised the Triple Nickels broke through barriers, jumped out of planes, and showed up for battle. What began with 20 young African-American enlisted men in 1943 ended, in name only, in 1947. The 555th would become the 3rd Battalion, 505th Infantry regiment, 82nd Airborne Division and would be the first African-American unit in history to become a part of an American combat division. The legacy of mighty soldiers that began with these men continued into the 188th Airborne Infantry Regiment, the 11th Airborne Division, and the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team.

I join with all those gathered to dedicate a monument to the Triple Nickels Association in offering my profound thanks. In overcoming great obstacles, the men of the 555th became more than paratroopers. Their legacy lives on today in a military free of racial barriers and in the hearts and minds of all who seek freedom. I ask my colleagues to join with me in celebrating and remembering the men of the 555th Parachute Infantry Company.